

REMARKS

The present invention is a method of electronically purchasing tickets, a method of providing a ticket to a user terminal, a system which provides a ticket to a user terminal and a method. A method of electronically purchasing tickets in accordance with an embodiment of the invention includes a purchaser using a portable trusted terminal 281 of a purchaser, which is in wireless communication with a server 290 of a provider of tickets, to select a ticket to be purchased and to digitally sign a contract to purchase the selected ticket; using the portable trusted terminal to communicate with the server which verifies a purchase of a selected ticket and authenticity of the purchaser; signing with the server a contract representing a purchase of the ticket by the purchaser and saving in a memory 316 information regarding the purchase of the ticket from which the purchased ticket is output by an authorized device 200 selected by the portable trusted terminal with authorization being determined by the server of the provider.

Claims 18-20, 33, 56, 66, 67, 69-71, 84, 107 and 116 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over United States Patent 6,728,000 (Lapstun et al) and further, claims 31, 54, 82 and 105 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Lapstun et al further in view of official notice. These grounds of rejection are traversed for the following reasons.

Each of independent claims 18, 33, 56, 69, 84, 107 and 116 substantially recites a terminal which purchases, by communication with a server of a provider of tickets,

a ticket by processing a contract with the server which performs authentication and verification functions with the ticket being output by an authorized device selected by the terminal. This subject matter has no counterpart in Lapstun et al.

Lapstun et al describe a network in Fig. 3 including a group of servers 10-14 and printers 601 which are registered and print documents on demand and via subscription as described in column 15, lines 51-67 through column 17, lines 1-20. While the Examiner refers to portions of Lapstun et al which do describe the secure delivery of tickets, there is no disclosure in Lapstun et al, as recognized by the Examiner, pertaining to the server processing of a contract. Furthermore, there is no disclosure in Lapstun et al regarding selection of the printer 601 to output the purchased ticket with a contract processed by the server as claimed. The Examiner suggests that a signed contract is inherent in Kay which is presumed to be a typographical error with the referenced portions of Lapstun et al of column 32, line 29 to column 93, line 21, being understood to be the basis for inherency. Inherency requires that which is inherent must be present. It is submitted that Lapstun et al, including the referenced portions, do not demonstrate inherency. Moreover, it is submitted that the claimed processing by the server of the contract is also not an obvious variation of Lapstun et al's use of secure delivery of documents as disclosed in the referenced portions

The dependent claims 19, 20, 66, 67, 70 and 71 further limit the dependent claims in a manner which is not obvious.

Newly submitted claims 120 and 122 respectively recite a method of electronically purchasing tickets and a system which provides tickets for purchase to a

There is no basis in Lapstun et al in the record why a person of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to modify the teachings of Lapstun et al to arrive at the subject matter of newly submitted claims 120 and 122.

Dependent claims 121 and 123 further limit claims 120 and 122 in reciting the authorized device prints or outputs the purchased ticket and after the printing or output of the purchased ticket, acknowledges the output of the purchased ticket to the server.

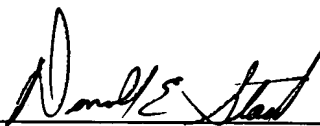
There is no basis why a person of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to modify the teachings of Lapstun et al to arrive at the subject matter of dependent claims 121-123 except by impermissible hindsight.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (0173.39011X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Donald E. Stout
Registration No. 26,422
(703) 312-6600

Attachments
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